

## SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 13 FERRUARY 2005

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central Africa Time (CAT) in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za), on packet bulletin boards and on Echolink from Chris, ZS6FCS.

In the news today:

PEARS "WELCOME TO HF" QSO PARTY

CALLING ALL REPEATER WORKING GROUPS AND SYSOPS OF UNMANNED DEVICES

HAMNET MEETING.

POTCHEFSTROOM AMATEUR RADIO CLUB TO PROVIDE COMMUNICATION

THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION ELECTS A PRESIDENT

AFRICA OFFERS RARE OPPORTUNITY FOR ADVENTUROUS RADIO AMATEUR

Stay tuned for more detail on these and other news items.

Visit the SARL Web site or call the SARL office which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00 at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

SARL NEWS depends on clubs and individuals for news of interest to radio amateurs. Please place your news items on the web site of the SARL, which is [www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp](http://www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp) not later than the Thursday pre-ceding the bulletin date. It would be appreciated if you could do it in both Afrikaans and English.

You are listening to ZS6SRL and the news follows in detail.

PEARS "WELCOME TO HF" QSO PARTY The PEARs "Welcome to HF" QSO Party will take place on the weekend of 19-20 February 2005. This event is aimed at welcoming the ZR licencees to HF with a bang, and all stations are encouraged to participate. There will be certificates awarded to the top scoring ZR and ZS stations, as well as the top international entries from each continent. Full rules can be found on the main page of the SARL website. Please note that due to the anticipated high level of participation, a special email address has been set up for logs. Logs can be mailed to: [pearscontest@mweb.co.za](mailto:pearscontest@mweb.co.za) for

processing. Please note that entries close on 31 March and no late entries will be accepted.

#### CALLING ALL REPEATER WORKING GROUPS AND SYSOPS OF UNMANNED DEVICES

Over the years the repeater listing on the SARL web site has come up for severe criticism because it wasn't properly up to date with the reality on the ground. This made it difficult to provide information to members requesting information about repeaters as well as when it came to processing applications for new licences.

Now a new online database has been written to quickly and in real time allow repeater working group users to update the details of their devices under their care. This system will have far reaching benefits and allow all manner of reporting which will benefit all clubs in South Africa.

If you can help with information on devices in your area please complete with as much detail as requested as possible on the SARL website. This system is still new and once feedback comes in changes are made to improve it, so please let us have your feedback.

When you try to access the web site, please note that there is a za at the end of the address. It would appear that many people try to access the web site but leave out the za and then complain that they cannot access the web site. The full address is [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za).

STOP PRESS. Now also see the new Grid Square map for repeaters and other devices. Using this map you can view devices geographically. Use it to plan your next road trip and find the repeaters along the route or to discover what's available in your area.

#### HAMNET MEETING.

After the meeting held on the 23rd of October 2004, it was decided to have more regular meetings to discuss items that may be of interest or value to Hamnet members.

A meeting will be held on Saturday the 26th of February at the NARC at Radiokop and will start at 14:00.

This meeting is aimed specifically at speakers from the medical fraternity who will give us a presentation on their activities and how Amateur Radio Emergency could fit into their environment.

We have two guest speakers at this stage but we are hoping for a third. The agenda will be made available on the SARL Website once all the speakers have been finalised.

We look forward to your attendance.

THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION  
ELECTS A PRESIDENT The Southern African Antique Wireless Association  
- SA-AWA reports that Rod Radford, ZS5RK, has been elected as President for  
2005. Bushy Roode, ZS6M, serves as Past-President. Andy Cairns, ZS6ADY,  
serves as QSL Manager. Willem Nel, ZS6ALL, continues his duties as Net  
Controller. Allan Franzsen, ZS6BIK, looks after Administrative issues.

Membership of the SA-AWA is by association, and there are no membership  
fees. Meetings are held every Saturday morning on 7 070 kHz at 09:00 CAT.  
President Rod Radford has extended a special invitation to ZR's and ZU's to  
join in on the weekly meetings.

POTCHEFSTROOM AMATEUR RADIO CLUB TO PROVIDE COMMUNI-  
CATION The Potchefstroom Amateur Radio Club will provide communications  
on 145,7375 MHz from 13:00 during the annual Potchefstroom Swimming Gala  
that will be held on Saturday, 26 February in the Potchefstroom Dam. Club  
members will be mobile on motorboats and report to the base station which  
will be located at the tent of the Emergency Services at the dam.

NEW MEMBERS FOR THE EAST RAND RADIO CLUB The East Rand  
Radio Club welcomes the following new members: Frikkie van Blerk; Springs;  
Koos van Blerk; Springs; Barnie Barnard, ZR6JAA; Henry Swanepoel, ZR6SRK;  
Dion de Beer, ZS6DEB; Jenny de Beer, ZS6FBI; Nalantie de Beer, ZS6STX;  
Derrick de Beer, ZS6CIA.

The committee wishes the members a long and happy relationship with the East  
Rand Radio Club.

WINNER OF DUAL BAND AMPLIFIER Congratulations to Jimmy Smith,  
ZR6CC, from Midrand in Gauteng. He is the winner of the Dual Band Linear  
Amplifier that was drawn at the East Rand Flea Market on 5 February.

A word of thanks to each HAM that contributed towards the East Rand Radio  
Club raffle that ran the last three months.

A special word of thanks to Arno du Plessis, ZS6BDD, who donated the brand  
new amplifier at no cost to the Club. Thanks Doepie!!

AFRICA OFFERS RARE OPPORTUNITY FOR ADVENTUROUS RADIO  
AMATEUR

The International Red Cross requires the services of a knowledgeable person  
to attend to their radio communication and computer installations on Africa  
and adjoining islands. It can thus be an ideal opportunity for an adventurous  
radio amateur to activate rare entities during his visits to the different countries.  
For further information contact Tjerk Lammers, ZS6P, whose email address is  
zs6p@iafrica.com.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Propagation conditions during the past week were again very weak. I am none

the less aware of a few exciting DX contacts, reports Kobus, ZS6KOB. The sunspot number on Thursday was 53,4 against last weeks extremely low of 21,4. There was an upwards tendency but this might be short lived. On the sun's surface there was a single activity, but otherwise nothing worthwhile. The predicted average sunspot number for February is only 25,2.

#### DIARY OF EVENTS

19 - 20 February - PEARS "Welcome to HF" Party; 31 March - Submit final papers for AMSATCON2005; closing date for part 1 of the 2005 Construction Competition; 08 April - SARL Awards Dinner; 09 April - SARL AGM; 14 May - AMSATCON2005.

The SARL invites you to listen on Sundays at 10:00 to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 17 700, 9 750, and 7 082 kHz and many 2 m repeaters in different areas. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz.

Telkom and Sentech sponsor ARMI.

This then brings us to the end of today's bulletin, which was compiled by Gustav, ZS6BWN, and read by .....from..... as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL and thank you for having joined us. Also many thanks to those persons who supply news for our bulletins and the amateurs who relay the bulletins so regularly.

Goodbye everyone.

/EX